

Workforce News

3rd Quarter 2007
(July/August/Sept)

A quarterly publication of the Department of
Workforce Services



Southeast Utah: Carbon, Emery, Grand, San Juan

jobs.utah.gov



Intensity of Economic Activity



Inside:

- ✦ Construction drives Carbon's job growth.
- ✦ San Juan shows strong employment growth.
- ✦ Emery holding steady.



Contact the author, your regional economist, with any questions on content:

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Sometimes we think of our local economy as stopping at the county line. Beyond there exists a nebulous world that we sometimes don't feel connected with. However, each one of our county's economies are intimately linked, even over long distances, in ways that are hard to see. In order to shed light on these linkages we will investigate per-capita gross taxable sales. This measure allows us to see the intensity of sales in a county and get an idea of purchasing patterns within our region.

For our purposes we will use gross taxable sales data for the second quarter of 2006 and the annual population estimate from the Utah Population Estimates Committee for 2006—which, incidentally is for July 1st—to create our per capita figure for each county. Comparing each county's figures to the overall state average gives us some sense of where particular sales are more intense than others. Of course, it is important to note that this only represents one quarter of

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Find detailed wage information for occupations in Utah: <http://jobs.utah.gov/jsp/wi/utalmis/goto0ccwage.do>

Intensity of Economic Activity

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the year and may not be indicative of the county's annual performance.

In general, the data paints a rather rosy picture for the Southeast. Carbon, Emery, and Grand counties had above average gross taxable sales intensities—147 percent, 124 percent, and 183 percent, respectively. San Juan County alone in the region had a low sales intensity, with per-capita gross taxable sales only 48 percent of the statewide average. These general figures belie some more interesting industry-level data.

Of the four Southeast counties, Carbon County appears to have the most balanced economy in terms of sales intensity. Nearly every industry showed per-capita sales in excess of the statewide figures, which is in keeping with the county's role as a retail and service hub for central Utah. This effect shows up in Emery County's data, where most retail and service industries show low per-capita sales intensities. On the plus side, Emery County did see very high levels of spending in business investment purchases.

Grand County, a mecca for outdoor enthusiasts everywhere, posted impressive sales intensities in tourism-related industries. On the other hand, sales intensities for other industries in the county were lower than average. Likewise, in San Juan County, while tourism-related industries—like

lodging (405 percent)—did very well, nearly every other industry showed below-average per-capita sales intensity. This suggests that residents of both counties are purchasing at least some portion of their goods and services outside the county.

Per-capita Gross Taxable Sales Intensities (2006, 2nd Quarter)

Standard Industrial Classification	Carbon	Emery	Grand	San Juan
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	34%		49%	
Mining	100%	77%	119%	47%
Construction	314%	461%	109%	174%
Manufacturing	149%	445%	142%	42%
Transportation	108%	71%	143%	26%
Communications	679%	466%	87%	244%
Electric & Gas	290%	185%	713%	135%
Wholesale Trade Sales				
Durable Goods	268%	141%	64%	33%
Nondurable Goods	229%	76%	159%	110%
Retail Trade Sales				
Building and Garden Stores	64%	87%	47%	23%
General Merchandise Stores	200%	27%	43%	15%
Food Stores	133%	164%	296%	60%
Motor Vehicle Dealers	132%	54%	57%	17%
Apparel & Accessory Stores	18%	4%	130%	2%
Furniture Stores	40%	12%	89%	13%
Eating & Drinking	105%	50%	349%	37%
Miscellaneous	105%	302%	296%	47%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	127%	28%	409%	29%
Service Sales				
Hotels & Lodging	82%	282%	2080%	405%
Personal	85%	14%	49%	33%
Business	188%	71%	71%	62%
Auto & Misc. Repair	163%	219%	98%	28%
Amusement & Recreation	50%	28%	737%	79%
Health	146%	27%	71%	34%
Education, Legal, Social	175%	57%	44%	20%
Public Administration	190%	188%	22%	480%
Private Motor Vehicle Sales	114%	110%	288%	153%
Occasional Retail Sales	28%	19%	170%	11%
Nondisclosable or Nonclassifiable	128%	388%	0%	31%
Total (Current Period)	147%	124%	183%	48%

Source: Author's calculations based on sales tax data from the Utah State Tax Commission and the Utah Population Estimates Committee.

Eastern Region Business Services News

jobs.utah.gov

DWS Contacts

Business Consultants:

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Vernal

Marilyn Wallis 435-781-4128

Roosevelt

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Moab

Lisa Roman 435-719-2633

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Wayne Tuttle 435-381-6101

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Resources

Child Care Resource and Referral

Lis Barker 435-586-0170

Contributions-Employer Taxes

Jackie Wurster 435-688-3137

Chad Carter 435-688-3106

DOL Wage/Hour Division 801-524-5706

Employer Tax Credit

801-526-9484

Labor Market Information

Michael Hanni-Economist 801-526-9403

New Hire Reporting 800-222-2857

Pre-Layoff Assistance

Dawn Lay 801-526-4312

Unemployment Insurance Information

800-222-2857

Utah Labor Commission 801-530-6801

Additional Resources

jobs.utah.gov

Business.utah.gov

Upcoming Events / Seminars

For information about upcoming DWS seminars and workshops, please contact the office nearest you, or <http://jobs.utah.gov/employer/business/workshops.asp>

MOAB

The DWS Moab Employment center co-sponsors a monthly **business brown bag workshop** on the fourth Tuesday of every month, at noon, in the DWS conference room. Topics vary but all relate to starting and operating a small business. Call Teresa Wyatt at the Moab Chamber of Commerce for more details at 259-7814.

Moab Rocks customer service training is underway through a partnership between the Moab Chamber of Commerce and DWS. This class teaches basic customer service skills as well as equipping employees with great answers to those typical visitor questions, with an eye towards encouraging visitors to stay longer in the area and participate in more activities. A class schedule is being developed, and employers may also request a class for their employees (with a minimum number of participants). Please contact the Moab Chamber of Commerce for details at 259-7814.

Small Business Sales and Use Tax and Employer Withholding Tax workshops will be held in **Moab Oct. 9-10, 2007**. The withholding workshop is designed to help small business owners and self-employed persons with employees learn how and when to report unemployment insurance contributions. They will also learn how to withhold income for federal and state taxes, social security, and Worker's Compensation Insurance. Participants learn how to complete employment tax forms and deposit taxes. The Sales and Use Tax workshop is designed to help new business owners understand and comply with Utah's statutes governing sales and use tax. Participants learn about licensing requirements, tax rates, filing returns, remittance of tax, and a basic understanding of what is taxable versus what is exempt. Please note: The Utah CPE Registry has approved 4 hours of CPE credit for CPAs attending the workshop.

EMERY COUNTY AND PRICE

The Emery County Economic Development Council and the Carbon County Economic Development Group will host the fourth annual **Castle Country Economic Summit**. This year's summit will be held at the new convention center at the Carbon County Fairgrounds **September 19, 20, and 21**. Events planned are classes that offer the opportunity to receive accreditation, informative breakout sessions, our famous Dutch oven dinner at the Castle Valley Ranch, entertainment at both the ranch and the newly constructed North Springs Shooting Range. Events, class schedules and registration forms will be available at www.emerycounty.com.

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INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM

The Incumbent Worker Training Program (IWTP) is designed to benefit business and industry by assisting in existing employees' skill development and by increasing employee productivity and company growth. It is expected to result in the creation of new jobs, the retention of jobs that otherwise may have been eliminated, and an increase in wages for the trained workers.

The IWTP is a partnership of the Utah Department of Workforce Services, the State Workforce Investment Board, business and industry. Funding for IWTP comes from the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs under the Workforce Investment Act.

The long-term goal for this initiative is to create an infrastructure that provides training and education to enhance the skills of incumbent workers, increase the wages of workers through a career ladder, and positively impact the revenues of businesses by increasing their productivity.

Who Can Participate?

- All companies in business in Utah for over one year who are in full compliance with the Utah unemployment laws.
- Businesses that have a long-range commitment to employee training
- Businesses with defined advancement opportunities for their employees
- Financially viable businesses
- Businesses willing to provide a 50 percent match of the training costs

How to Apply

Each year, the DWS and the State Workforce Investment Board will determine the funding level for the IWTP. Funding varies year to year depending on many factors. Once it is determined funding is available, notification to employers occurs by posting an announcement on the DWS web site, jobs.utah.gov and sending an announcement via email to all employers registered with the department.

What is the Business's Responsibility?

- Review the criteria provided in the announcement (criteria may vary with each funding opportunity)
- Prepare your proposal and submit by deadline
- Provide all required information
- If awarded funds, provide quarterly reports that identify the expenditures, company match, training activities, employees trained, certificate/credentials awarded, etc.

Questions?

If you have additional questions, please contact: Connie Laws at 801-526-9955 or claws@utah.gov; or Gary Kennison at 435-764-2968 or gwkenison@utah.gov

Now Online!

Employer 101 – Labor Law Basic Training

One-stop resource promotes voluntary compliance with federal and state labor laws

The Department of Workforce Services (DWS), the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division and the Utah Labor Commission have joined forces to launch a one-stop online resource for Utah employers on federal and state employment laws: Employer 101 Labor Law Basic Training.

This training offers convenience to all Utah employers throughout the state. Employers can review the information at any time from

the comfort of their own offices. Topics include the Fair Labor Standards Act, anti-discrimination and harassment, and Utah's wage and hour laws.

The Resource Connection page will assist employers with helpful information relating to everything from Anti-discrimination to Youth employment laws. Visit jobs.utah.gov/edo/laborlaw for a site designed exclusively for our Utah employers.

Did You Know?

As an employer, what do I have to do to complete the I-9? First, carefully read all instructions on the I-9 form. The employer is responsible to ensure Section 2 is completed properly and timely.

- Complete an I-9 for each new employee within 3 business days of being hired. The new employee must present acceptable documents within 90 days, if these documents are not readily available when completing the I-9 on the date of hire. Employers must record: 1) document title; 2) issuing authority; 3) document number, 4) expiration date, if any; and 5) the date employment begins.
- Employers must keep the I-9 on file for three years from the date of hire, or at least one year from a separation date of an employee, whichever is longer. The I-9 is not forwarded to any federal office, but is maintained in the employer files.
- Records must be available for inspection upon request by USCIS or the Department of Homeland Security. Employers may, but are not required to, photocopy the document(s) presented. These photocopies may only be used for the verification process and must be retained with the I-9.
- The new employee must present documents to satisfy Section 2. The employer must use what is presented, and then certify that they have looked at the documents. The immigration or citizenship documents must be originals -- photocopies are not allowed.

A complete list of acceptable documents to verify identity and employment eligibility of new employees is available on the USCIS web page, www.uscis.gov. USCIS has also initiated a web based verification program for employers. More information is available at <https://www.vis-dhs.com/>.

For additional information or questions, you may contact Norman Nakamura, Department of Workforce Services Liaison with USCIS, at 801-526-9749 or email at normannakamura@utah.gov.

County News

Carbon County: Compared with the same quarter of the previous year, 2006 fourth quarter results for Carbon County showed a solid 3.2-percent increase in employment—or an addition of 302 jobs. The bulk of this new employment came from goods-producing industries, construction in particular, which added 263 jobs over last year. Service-producing industries also showed positive, but less dramatic, increases over the year. On the other side of the ledger, closures of several manufacturing establishments pushed overall manufacturing employment down 69 jobs.

Emery County: The fourth quarter of 2006 was rather quiet for Emery County. Year-over job growth came in at 0.9 percent, adding a total of 36 jobs over the same quarter last year. Strong increases in administrative support services and construction were offset by decreases in transportation and utilities employment. The county's other industries neither gained nor lost much employment over the year.

Grand County: Labor market statistics for Grand County painted a misleading picture in the fourth quarter of 2006. Due to a geographical code change, manufacturing employment in Grand County increased and then decreased dramatically throughout the year. This change pushed the county's overall job change rate down to near zero percent. Even the strong year-over growth in leisure and hospitality employment could not improve the overall picture. Look for these numbers to improve in the coming quarters.

San Juan County: Year-over job growth in Utah's San Juan County was excellent in the fourth quarter of 2006. Compared with the same quarter last year, the county added roughly 187 new jobs, for an increase of 4.8 percent. While nearly every industry in the county added positions, construction, manufacturing, and mining added the most, combining to create an additional 122 jobs. The county also saw strong gains in professional and business services and private education and health services.

Check it Out

There's a gold mine of information for businesses on our Employer Resource Center Web page:

<http://jobs.utah.gov/employer/resource/>

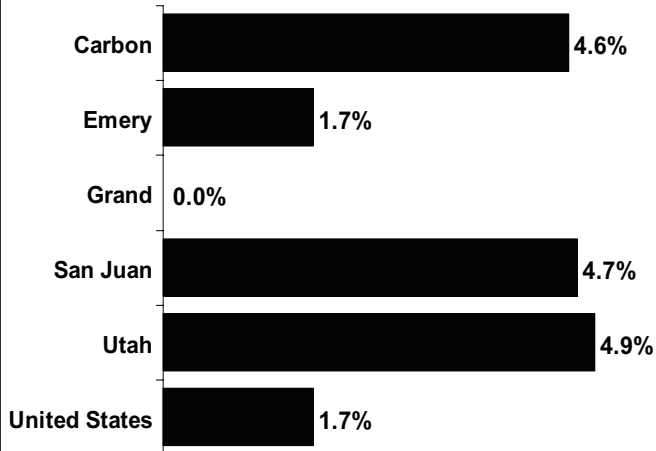
What's Up?

- ✦ Cleanup of the Atlas uranium mill site has been recently estimated by the U.S. Department of Energy to take up to 21 years. The new 2028 deadline is at odds with the original seven-to-10 year plan laid out in an environmental impact statement.
- Deseret Morning News, 04/28/2007
- ✦ Work on Pure CO₂'s specialty gas plant in Carbon County is coming to a close. Once the plant comes into operation the firm expects to be able to produce these gases for more than a century for products like dry ice. Industries like cold food packing and large-scale greenhouses are potential side industries.
- The Sun Advocate, 04/19/07

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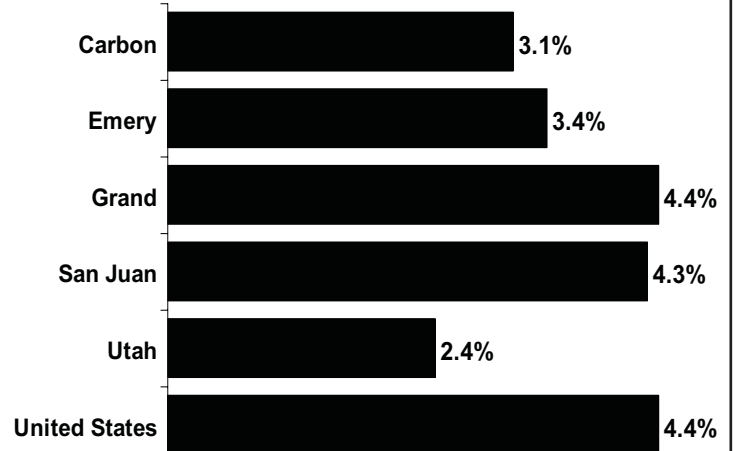
jobs.utah.gov

**Year-over Change in Non-farm Jobs
December 2005 to December 2006**



Source: Utah Dept. of Workforce Services; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rate
March 2007**



Source: Utah Dept. of Workforce Services; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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